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In the present dearth of political intelligence we conceive it will not be considered unacceptable, occasionally, to introduce scientific and literary essays, for the sake of variety, and to suit the several tastes of our readers. In a work like the Register, a *melange* of this kind, will we believe be attended with amusement as well as instruction, and cannot be displeasing to any, however devoted he may be to the mere study of political science. Variety is the charm of life—and to our young readers, we know it must, and will, be acceptable.

REMARKS, &c. ON CHATTERTON THE POET.

The Deity has sometimes produced intellectual, as well as physical prodigies. His designs are mysterious and inscrutable; but we do not doubt that his object, though shrouded from our view, is wise and beneficent. Some men have appeared, like meteors, to blaze for a moment and vanish for ever—their career has been too short, and perhaps too unfortunate, to render their efforts so beneficial to the world, as the powers with which they were gifted would induce us to anticipate. We may, indeed, regret the termination of a life which has only extended to a few years, and which gave promises of great usefulness to society—but could we remove the veil of futurity and see the chain of events which were to follow, we would immediately recognize the wisdom and the mercy of that being before whom it is our duty to bow, with the most profound and deep-felt sense of reverence and submission.

Among the intellectual curiosities that have figured, for a few short years, on the theatre of the world, we know of none that

has so strongly excited our sympathies, as the wonderful but unfortunate Chatterton, whose life we shall endeavour briefly to sketch, for the gratification of such of our readers as may not have had an opportunity to become acquainted with his history.

THOMAS CHATTERTON was born at Bristol, in England, Nov. 20th, 1752, of obscure parents. His ancestors for a century and a half had been the sextons of St. Mary Redcliffe's Church, and his father, in addition to this, as it were hereditary employment, taught a free school in Bristol. Young Chatterton received no other education than what he could pick up at a charitable seminary called St. Augustine, in his native city; his father having died either before or immediately after his birth, and his mother being too poor to send him to any other school. In this school he learned merely reading, writing and arithmetic, which constituted the whole circle of his literary attainments. In 1767 Chatterton became an apprenticed clerk to an attorney of Bristol, with whom he continued for a few years; which seem to have been principally employed in reading, acquiring knowledge, and preparing those productions, which he ascribed to Rowley, and which, afterwards, became the subject of so much controversy, and such general interest, among men of letters. Before the age of twelve, with all the disadvantages under which he laboured, he had gone through 70 vols. of history and divinity, and had attempted the strength of his poetical being in the composition of some verses which indicated future excellence, and evinced a consciousness of superior merit. He thus alludes to himself in his "Story of Canyinge," which he ascribes to Rowley,—

"In all his sheepen gambols and child's play,
At every merry making, fair or wake,
I kenn'd a purple light of wisdom's ray;
He ate down learning, with the wastle cake.
As wise as any of the aldermen,
He'd wit enough to make a mayor at ten."

Chatterton is described by his sister as having been gloomy, from the time he began to learn, till he commenced his poetical labours, when he became more cheerful. Beattie, in his beautiful Minstrel, has painted a real, and not an imaginary Edwin. The following lines will apply with peculiar aptitude to this extraordinary child, at this period:—

"And yet poor Edwin was no vulgar boy,
 Deep thought oft seem'd to fix his infant eye.
 Dainties he heeded not, nor gauds, nor toys,
 Save one short pipe of rudest minstrelsy.
 Silent when glad, affectionate though shy;
 And now his look was most demurely sad;
 And now he laugh'd aloud, yet none knew why.
 The neighbours stared and sigh'd, yet bless'd the
 lad:
 Some deem'd him wond'rous wise and some be-
 liev'd him mad."

His sister states, as his peculiarities, that he was indifferent to females, was very proud and impetuous, remarkably temperate, studied best towards the full of the moon, and "would often set up all night and write by moonlight."

It was during the 2d year of his apprenticeship, (which, by the way, was irksome to his feelings and considered by him as debasing to his character, for he was confined to the mere drudgery of the office,) that he first put into execution that plan of imposture, as it has been called, which has given him such reputation, and which he had previously meditated and arranged. And in Farley's Bristol Journal for 1768, there appeared an account of the ceremonies employed on opening the old bridge, said to be taken from an ancient M.S. The appearance of this curious memoir at such a period excited great curiosity, and it was soon traced to Chatterton, who to the "threats of those who treated him as a child, returned nothing but haughtiness, and refused to give any account. But milder usage and fair promises finally induced him to confess that he had received that, and many other MSS. from his father, who had found them in an iron chest, placed by William Cannynge, (the founder of the church) in a monument room, over the northern portico of St. Mary Redcliffes." The curiosity and noise the publication of this memoir produced, brought him acquainted with one Catcott, a pewterer, and Barrett, a surgeon, who was then engaged in writing a history of Bristol. To these men, his only patrons, who sometimes supplied him with money, but to a very limited amount, he produced all the poems of Rowley, except the "Ballad of Charitee." In his conversations with Catcott and Barrett his statements, it is said, were contradictory, and led to a suspicion that he was himself the author of these celebrated poems. About this time, also, he contributed considerably to the Town and Country Magazine; and in order to rise by the efforts of his genius, and acquire more powerful and opulent patrons than those with whom it had been his destiny to come in contact, in his native city, he determined to repair to London, the emporium of taste, and

the encourager of talent, and try his fortune as an author. His favourite maxim was that every thing possible was within the reach of man, and might be acquired by diligence and abstinence; and therefore supposed that it would be impossible for him to fail, who felt all the consciousness and aspirations of superior genius, in a place where genius was patronised and talent encouraged. Previously to his departure he addressed a letter to the celebrated Horace Walpole, in which he made known to him the humbleness of his family and condition; his taste for elegant studies; the treasures of ancient poetry in his possession, and his wish that Mr. Walpole would aid him in emerging from the dullness and obscurity of the condition in which he was placed. To this letter Walpole replied, after having submitted the specimen of ancient poetry, sent by Chatterton to Gray and Mason, who pronounced it a forgery; and advised him, instead of generously giving him that aid he requested, to confine himself to the duties of his low and laborious profession, as affording the most certain means of future ease and independence. We shall neither justify nor censure Walpole for this indifference to the application of a boy who had given him so favourable a specimen of the power and singularity of his mind. The odium which was cast on the character of this man after the melancholy death of poor Chatterton, he attempted to remove, and to this justification we must refer the reader, without a comment. The short period he spent in London partakes more of the wildness of a dream than of the reality of life. In April 1770, he quitted Bristol, never to return. We behold him now a youth of 17, without a friend to aid or advise him, in the very centre of vice, profligacy and corruption, with no fixt principles of religion, (for the poor boy had unfortunately imbibed, in the course of his reading, the poisonous doctrines of infidelity,) casting himself on his own centre, and flattering himself with the prospect of attaining distinction and fortune by the unpatronised and unaided efforts of his own genius. His encouragement was not such as his warm and fervid imagination had lead him to anticipate. He was, indeed, immediately employed by the conductors of several Literary Journals, to all of which he contributed, but the meagre compensation he received did not correspond with the high hopes of opulence and fame he had entertained, and he became gloomy and desponding. Notwithstanding however his poverty, and the numerous occupations and pleasures in which he was engaged, he still found time and money to bestow on his mother and sister with whom he

frequently corresponded, and to whom he often sent many little presents. In the last letter he ever wrote to his sister, dated July 20th, 1770, he says—"My mother may expect more patterns. I have an universal acquaintance; my company is courted every where, and could I *humble* myself to go into a compter, could have had 20 places before now; but I must be among the great; state matters suit me better than commercial."

A sudden change seems to have taken place in his mind, or affairs, for this was written only a month before he put a fatal period to his life. The cause of this melancholy catastrophe has never been, and never will be, fully ascertained. By some it has been ascribed to disappointed ambition, or a desire to seal his secret with his death; and by others, perhaps with more truth, to indigence, to the actual want of the necessaries of life. Be this however as it may, on the 25th of August, 1770, he was found dead in his chamber, in consequence of having, the day before, swallowed arsenic in water. Thus terminated he life of this intellectual phenomenon before he was 18 years of age. He was buried in a shell in the burying ground of the Shoe Lane workhouse at the expense of the public. Before his death he had taken the precaution to destroy all his MSS. as his room, when it was broken open, was covered with little scraps of paper.

Such was the melancholy end of this extraordinary youth, whose genius, according to Dean Mills, should be preferred to that of Homer, Virgil, Spencer and Shakespeare. Poor Chatterton—ill-fated and misguided boy—short and miserable was thy life and wretched its termination. No hand was found charitable enough to tender thee its aid—to guide thee through the thorny paths of life, and to save thee from thyself. When no more, thousands rushed forward to rescue thy name from oblivion, and to exalt thy genius to the skies—who, while in being, suffered thee to starve, and to pass thy short but melancholy existence in misery and want.

The observations of those with whom he lived while in London, give an additional interest to the character of this singular young man. One female states that, but for his face, she should never have thought him a boy, he was so *manly* and so *much himself*—that he never touched meat, and drank only water, and seemed to live on the air. She adds that he was good tempered, and agreeable, and obliging, but sadly proud and haughty—that he used to sit up almost all night reading and writing, and that her brother said he was afraid to lie with him, for to be sure he was a *spirit* and never slept, for he never

came to bed till it was morning and then never closed his eyes. Chatterton's bed-fellow, the brother of the woman whose statement we have just given, said, that notwithstanding his pride and haughtiness, it was impossible to help liking him; that he lived chiefly upon a bit of bread, and some water; that he never slept to his knowledge; that almost every morning the floor was covered with pieces of paper not so big as sixpence, into which he had torn what he had been writing before he came to bed. One Mrs. Wolfe, a barber's wife, who lived within a short distance of the house in which Chatterton last boarded, stated that his landlady told her that, as she knew he had not eaten any thing for two or three days, she asked him to dine with her on the 24th of August, but he seemed offended at her invitation, which indicated he was in want, said he was not hungry, and soon after swallowed the arsenic which closed his life.

The motive which led to this fatal resolution it is impossible to ascertain; nor shall we offer a conjecture. "His taking such a rash and unjustifiable step," says a friend of his, is "almost as strange as his fathering his poems upon Rowley." His death was, like his life, unaccountable and unfortunate. We shall not seek to draw his frailties from their dread abode, but leave them to that judge before whom all must ultimately appear. But we think the destiny of this poor youth was indeed singularly unfortunate—opposed with indigence—struggling alone against the numerous difficulties of life, his haughty and elevated soul, sensibly alive to every species of indignity and contempt—and conscious of the intellectual superiority he possessed—his miseries while in being, must have been truly exquisite—*ille dolet vere qui sine teste dolet*; but poor boy! death was not the termination of his wrongs. As soon as the extraordinary merit of the poems he had fathered upon Rowley was discovered, his character became a common mark for the shafts of calumny and detraction. He was called a base impostor, for merely attempting to make the world believe the poems which he had himself composed had been written 300 years before, by one Rowley, a priest; by others he was denominated a villain, whose profligacy was equal to his abilities; and it was even said by one *reverend* gentleman, that his death was of little consequence, since he could not long have escaped *hanging*. And for what? why, forsooth, for having produced some of the finest poems ever written in our language, and because, for a purpose best known to himself, he did not choose to publish to the world that he was the author, to

prevent all doubt and contention about their authenticity. But let us enter more particularly into the merit of this young man. The circumstance of his having made, not only the world believe in his restoration of the poems of Rowley, but even his own family, is an additional evidence of his greatness. There is nothing so difficult as to keep a secret from every body; we are social beings, and must communicate; the secret of a day is painful; but Chatterton kept his during his whole life. He meditated on and formed his plan before he was 15; it was neither criminal nor odious; yet he never told one human being the secret. He kept it buried in his own bosom, at a period too when other boys are almost afraid of their own shadow.—Who can we compare to this youth? There is no analogous example in the history of the world. “No such human being as this boy, at any period of life, has ever been known, or possibly ever will be known.” But let us go farther, and consider the poems themselves, the authenticity of which, at that time, though now settled, gave rise to so much altercation and dispute. Certainly that man, with all the labour and learning of years, who could so accurately imitate the style and spirit, and language of Chaucer, as make the world believe a poem of his own, was the production of that poet, would be considered as no ordinary being. But what poet, ancient or modern, could produce an *octavo volume*, in which after a long and laborious examination of several years, has not enabled the oldest heads to detect more than six or eight casual and accidental imitations of other writers. Those that are admitted to be the greatest poets, have, in a much less compass, been found guilty of frequent and palpable imitations. It was this perfect accuracy in the style and language of the period in which the poems were supposed to have been written, that created the difficulties and doubts about their authenticity which so much agitated the literary world. The extraordinary merit of these poems has been admitted by all who have read them; but in the prose and poetical compositions, avowedly his own, he manifests the same sublimity of genius and the same evidence of extraordinary intellect. But every thing about this boy was surprising. He had acquired, before he was 15, by his own efforts, a knowledge of drawing, architecture, heraldry, music, astronomy, surgery, &c. and in every thing evinced a maturity and power of mind that must place him above all those instances of premature talents

that have been recorded by Kliferus and Baillet. The description which has been given of his person corresponds with that of his mind. It possessed an uncommon degree of manliness and dignity; and the evidences of youth seemed to give way before that which inspired respect, elicited admiration, and exalted him almost above his species. Dr. Gregory states that his most remarkable feature was his eyes, which, though gray, were singularly piercing; and when warmed in argument, sparkled with fire; and that of these, one was more remarkable than the other. We shall conclude this brief sketch by some judicious and elegant observations by Lord Oxford, on the general character of Chatterton's works. “His life,” he observes, “should be compared with the powers of his mind, the perfection of his poetry, his knowledge of the world, which though, in some respects erroneous, spoke quick intuition; his humour, his vein of satire, and, above all, the amazing number of books he must have looked into, though chained down to a laborious and almost incessant service, and confined to Bristol, except, at most, for the last 5 months of his life; the rapidity with which he seized all the topics of conversation then in vogue, whether of politics, literature or fashion, and when added to all this mass of reflection, it is remembered that his youthful passions were indulged to excess, faith in such a prodigy may be well suspended and we should look for some secret agent behind the curtain, if it were not as difficult to believe that any man possessed such a vein of genuine poetry would have submitted to lie concealed while he actuated a puppet, or would have stooped to prostitute his muse to so many unworthy functions. But nothing in Chatterton can be separated from Chatterton. His noblest flights, his sweetest strains, his grossest ribaldry, and most common place imitations of the productions of Magazines, were all the effervescences of the same ungovernable impulse, which, camelion like, imbibed the colours of all it looked on. It was Ossian, or a Saxon Monk, or Gray, or Smollet, or Junius, and if it failed most in what it most affected to be, a poet of the 15th century, it was because it could not imitate what had not existed.”

The legislature of New Hampshire have appointed a committee to consider the expediency of establishing a public literary institution, in that state. The following gentlemen compose the committee—Wm. Allen, R. Vose, G. B. Upham, N. Parker, S. Moody, W. Pickering, J. Darling, R. H. Ayer, T. Whipple, jun. and J. P. Hale.

* Sir Herbert Croft,

THE MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE.

We know no foreigner to whom the United States are under more obligations than the Marquis de la Fayette, nor do we know any whose departure from our shores was more regretted or who left behind him more grateful and attached friends. His zeal in our public service and his private virtues alike entitle him to this high consideration. Of such a man the people of the United States will always be gratified to hear, when they can hear that he is steadfast to the principles of the revolution. Our readers will bear in mind that the following is from an *English* publication, that hatred of the French is patriotism in England, and that there neither democratic principle nor democratic men, can expect "equal and exact justice." With these drawbacks the following article will be read with pleasure.

From the London Monthly Magazine.

M. DE LA FAYETTE, having from his youth fought for the American cause, was very early in life penetrated with the principles of liberty, which form the basis of the government of the United States. If he committed errors relative to the French revolution, they arose entirely from his admiration of the American institutions, and for the hero Washington—who guided the steps of his nation in the path of independence.

M. de la Fayette, young, rich, noble, beloved by his country, quitted all these advantages at the age of nineteen, to serve, beyond the seas, this cause of liberty, the love of which decided the character of his whole life. Had he been so happy as to have been born in America his conduct would have been that of Washington;—the same disinterestedness, the same enthusiasm, the same perseverance in their opinions—and they were alike equally distinguished as warm friends of humanity and benevolence.

Had General Washington been placed in the situation of the Marquis de la Fayette, chief of the National Guard of Paris, he very probably would not have been able to triumph over circumstances; but would have failed in the attempt to preserve his vows of fidelity to his king, at the same time that he wished to establish the liberty of the nation.

It must, however, be acknowledged, that M. de la Fayette is a determined republican; yet none of the vanities of his class ever entered his head: power, the effect of which is so great in France, had not the least ascendancy over him; the desire of pleasing in the drawing room did not at all modify the expression of his sentiments; and he sacrificed his fortune to his opinions with the most generous indifference.

In the prison of Olmutz, as at the moment when his credit stood highest, he remained equally unshaken in his principles. He is a man whose manner of seeing and acting has always been direct and consistent. Whoever attentively observed him, might previously calculate with certainty upon what he would do under all circumstances. His political tenets are similar to those of the United States; and his face is more English than French.

The hatred of which M. de la Fayette is the ob-

ject, has failed to sour his character; and his mildness of disposition is undisturbed: but it is equally true, that nothing has been able to change, or in the slightest degree vary his opinions; and his confidence that liberty will be triumphant, is as great as that of a pious man in the life to come. These sentiments, so different, so contrary to the selfish calculations of the major part of those men who have played any part in France, may justly appear to some persons worthy of praise and commiseration: it is so silly, they say, to prefer one's country, and not to change one's party, when his party is beaten; in short to consider the human race, not like a pack of cards, that we are obliged to turn to our advantage, but as the sacred object of an absolute devotion. Nevertheless, if we thus incur the reproach of silliness, may our men of genius soon merit it.

It is a very singular circumstance, that such a character as that of M. la Fayette should have manifested itself in the person of one of the first gentlemen in France; but we can neither accuse nor judge him impartially without knowing him, and seeing his conduct in the light I have here painted it. It will then be easy to comprehend the various contrasts that arose out of his situation, and his manner of acting. Supporting the more from duty than inclination, he involuntarily drew nearer those principles of democracy which he was obliged to oppose; and it was possible to perceive him lean towards the friends of the republic, though his reason and good sense forbade him to wish their system admitted in France.

Since the departure of M. la Fayette for America, which is now 40 years, it is not possible to mention one action, or one word, that has not kept steadily in the same line without his conduct ever having been influenced by the least personal interest. Success would have relieved this manner of existence; but it demands all the attention of the historian, notwithstanding the circumstances, and even faults, which serve the enemy as weapons.

Such is the portrait given by Madame de Stael of M. de la Fayette, one of the most modest and unassuming, as well as most celebrated of men. We hope, in another number, to give an account of the same person by Lady Morgan. It will be interesting to oppose the judgment of these two celebrated women to the absurd stories and miserable calumnies of the general's enemies. It was not sufficient for them to attack his reputation, they must also find fault with his constitution in a physical sense. It is well known that Gen. la Fayette is about 60 years old; that he enjoys a perfect state of health; that his gaiety and tranquility are unalterable; that all his pleasures are centered in a domestic life, and that his only passion is to see consolidated the constitutional liberty of his country.—He is said to be eighty years of age; overwhelmed with infirmities; afflicted with a deafness that prevents his understanding any conversation without the assistance of a trumpet; his disposition gloomy and morose; and to complete the picture, he is devoured by ambition. It is only just that the public should be informed of these little *ruses de guerre*, which will doubtless be renewed each time it becomes a question of adding General la Fayette to the legislative body. It is very natural, that a man of his character and disposition, who has always been constant in his principles and his disinterestedness, should displease those persons whom we have so often seen opposed to themselves in their opinions, but always faithful to their principles of arbitrary sway.

FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Extract of a letter from an officer on board the U. S. ship Franklin, dated at Palermo, May 7, to the Editor of the Boston Gazette.

"The operations of our squadron consist, principally, in visiting the ports of Sicily, and the neighbouring States of Italy, and keeping the ships in the most perfect order. Now and then one of the vessels visits the coast of Barbary, and the rock of Gibraltar, for intelligence. We have now in company the *Guerriere* and *Erie*. The *Spark* sailed a few days since for Tunis. I am tired of Palermo, and rejoice that we leave here in a day or two for Naples. Having lately had a taste of the pleasures and splendor of that delightful capital, I feel on the tiptoe of youthful expectancy again to renew them. You may possibly doubt what those pleasures are—rational (and I was almost about to say, something of sublimity) I assure you. We spent the 20th of April only in the capital of the kingdom of the two Sicilies, arriving on Saturday evening, and sailing on Sunday night. In company with four officers of the ship, I paid a visit to *Pompeia* and *Herculaneum*, and derived that pleasure and interest which the scene was calculated to inspire; in a mind, not totally unacquainted with the history of their foundation. Instead of giving you an accurate description of the destruction and resuscitation, in part, of these once splendid cities, I shall rather express my feelings on beholding temples, palaces, and other buildings of art, emerging to light from the ruin and darkness, in which they have been concealed for twenty centuries.—The destruction of Gomorrah was not more dreadful, or complete than that of unhappy *Pompeia*.—The first shower of pumice, vomited by *Vesuvius*, now forms a stratum of five or six feet above the level of the streets.—To this succeeded the shower of cinders, which effectually crushed and covered every building, and left not a trace or vestige of the city above ground; the shower of ashes is from fifteen to twenty feet more; you will therefore comprehend at once the vastness of the labour to effect the removal of such a mass of matter, covering a town three miles in circumference. Yet, this is contemplated, and whole streets have been opened from one extremity of the wall to the other. Six temples are laid open to the eye of the curious; a vast amphitheatre, theatre, and forum; many are the beautiful statues and vases daily collected from this mine of antiquities. It is to be regretted they do not remain where found, but are conveyed to the museum at Naples. Although the substance that covers *Pompeia* is light, yet the quality is such that a century will not suffice for its removal. *Herculaneum* was destroyed at the same time—but if possible, in a more

dreadful manner; a torrent of liquid fire rushed suddenly from the mountain, and buried it one hundred feet below its surface. This volcanic matter is equally hard with granite; the excavations are of course exceedingly limited, and have never been pursued in any other direction, than where the wall was first sunk, that discovered the city. Such was the good fortune however, which directed the discoverers, that they fell immediately on the theatre, rich in statues and monuments of art.

"We returned to Naples, in the evening, and where the splendid theatre of San Carlo next awakened our astonishment with its enchantments and wonders. The piece was a pantomime dance, called *Orlando Furioso* from *Ariosto*. Had I tracked my imagination, I could not have fancied any thing so superbly elegant. The delight of myself and my friends was unbounded. To cap the climate of rare and astonishing sights, the ever terrible *Vesuvius* with the night, commenced throwing out a torrent of lava, reaching half way down its side; the largest eruption that has taken place for several years. We got on board at one o'clock, at night; when the ship immediately weighed, and stood out of the Bay by the light of nature's light-house, steaming from that mountain, "whose eternal fires forever glow."

ASTRONOMY.

SOLAR SPOTS. Spots on the Sun have this year appeared frequent. We have witnessed them for more than a month past, and some of them seemed exceedingly large. Four were distinctly viewed on the 28th May. They continued for number of days successive, and then disappeared. On the 11th June one larger than any before seen appeared conspicuous on the centre of the sun's disk, and seemed to render its rays feeble an obscure, nor unlike those occasioned by a partial eclipse. On the 13th it disappeared. The day was cold and windy; thermometer standing at 67. On the succeeding day two others entered upon the eastern and advanced towards western limb, until the 19th, when three of less magnitude appeared; thermometer rising to 87.—From these observations it would seem that the weather is effected, if at all, by the situation, rather than the number of spots; and that one large spot on the centre of the sun's disk, has more influence in producing cold than various smaller ones scattered upon its surface. Notwithstanding, however, the number which has been this year, the season is unusually fine; and never, perhaps, did the smiles of Heaven seem more gracious, or the beauties of nature "bloom more lavishly," than at the present moment.

THE COMET. The following observations were made on the Comet, at Portland, July 2d, 1819. It was discovered at 9 p. m. bearing N. N. W. at an altitude of about 14 degrees.

July 3d, at 9 P. M.—Observed its distance from Dubne to be

From Pole, or North Star, 38 40

" Arcturus 46 20

" 4th, at 9 P. M.—From Dubne, 89 20

" North Star, 37 18

" Arcturus 44 56

" Arcturus 87 30

Its altitude at 9h 6m. P. M. 5 30

" 5th, at 2h. 15m. morn.—From

Pleiades, or 7 Star 45 40

" Pole Star 44 20

" Dubne 37 10

" Capella 19 50

Length of tail extended 4 20

On the evening of the 5th, at 9h.

12m. from Dubne 35 40

" Pole Star 43 40

" Arcturus 86 20

" 6th, at 9 P. M.—From Dubne 34 40

" North Star 42 35

" Arcurus 85 20

It was cloudy on the evening of the 7th,

8th and 9th. No observations were made.

The Comet is receding from us in a direction nearly for the neck of the great Bear, (or pointers.) It travels through a space in the Heavens equal to about one and third of a degree in 24 hours.

At 9 P. M. on the 4th, its Declination was 46d. North, and light ascension, 102.

EAST INDIES.

NEW CUSTOM HOUSE.—*Masonic Ceremonies.*

CALCUTTA, Feb. 14.—The corner stone of the new Custom House, was laid with Masonic order, on the 12th of Feb. 1819. The following is extracted from an account of the ceremonies:

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master proceeded with the Provincial Grand Chaplain to the east side of the stone, where the Provincial Grand Chaplain delivered, in an impressive manner, the following prayer:

"O! Thou Omniscient, Omnipotent, Inprehensible, Eternal Being! Supreme Architect of all Worlds! vouchsafe to prosper this our present undertaking. And, forasmuch as all our national as well as individual prosperity is under thy Almighty guidance, we humbly beseech thee, thou great Dispenser of all Good! to shower down thy blessings upon us, upon the natives of this country, upon all

strangers and sojourners in this city. And of thy most gracious favor, grant unto us, now assembled, thy all powerful protection in furthering us with thy continual help, to establish, strengthen, and preserve this edifice, upon the best and surest foundation of liberality, equity, and concord; so that it may be built upon a rock, and remain to future ages the happy resort of commercial intercourse and good faith; the grand emporium of our eastern trade; a standing landmark of our country's fame."

The phials containing the coins were then placed in the niches. The contents of these were as follows:

Gold Coins.—1 old Indian mohur—1 half mohur—1 quarter mohur—new Indian mohur—1 Spanish doubloon, 1816—1 Portuguese moidore—1 English guinea—2 half guineas, 1802—1 half guinea, 1804—2 seven shilling pieces—1 new sovereign, 1818—1 Madras pagado—2 Batavia mohurs.

Silver Coins.—5 Spanish dollars—1 Austrian dollar—1 Constantinople dollar—2 Madras rupees—5 Benares half rupees—2 Bengal quarter rupees—3 English shillings—19 various Indian current coins.

Copper Coins.—1 English Penny—1 Half penny—20 Indian piece—34 various Indian current coins.

The Deputy Provincial Grand Master now read the inscription, which was as follows:

"In the 59th year of the reign of the most gracious sovereign George III, and under the auspices of the most noble the marquis of Hastings, K. G. governor-general and commander in chief of India, who in his wise and enlightened government of this great empire, regarding the welfare and prosperity of its commerce, (increased and extended by the blessings of general peace with Europe, and the opening of a free intercourse with this country) and considering the present inefficient state of this Harbor, sanctions the construction of commodious warehouses, to secure ample accommodations to trade. The hon. Charles Robert Lindsay, Provincial Grand Master of Bengal, at the solicitation of Sir Charles D'Oyly, Baronet, collector of customs, laid the foundation stone of this Custom House, a structure commensurate with the enlarged requisitions of the port of Calcutta, calculated to afford to the numerous vessels arriving from every part of the globe, protection and security to their cargoes, ease and facility to mercantile transactions, and prosperity to the British Government of India, on the 12th day of February, in the year of our Lord, 1819, and of the Æra of Masonry 3823, Geo. Lindsay, Lieut. of Bengal Engineers, being Architect.

May the undertaking prosper by the blessing of Almighty God!

AMERICAN LITERATURE.

From the New-England Galaxy.

"Why should the Americans write books, when a six weeks' passage brings them, in their own tongue, our sense, science, and genius, in bales and hogsheads!"

Edinburgh Review.

And why, let us ask, should we manufacture boots and buttons, when a six weeks' passage will bring us from Liverpool and Birmingham, the same articles at a cheaper rate? This way of managing an argument has lately become very fashionable. "Why," said the honorable Mr. Austin at the town meeting the other day, "why should we pay a schoolmaster for teaching our children Latin? All Latin works that are worth reading, are translated, and we can read them, much cheaper, in our own language." There is no withstanding the force of this reasoning, unless indeed, a man "has a soul above buttons," which is more than some of its advocates seem to possess.

That vulgar and unworthy prejudices should exist among the lower classes in Great Britain against a nation which has beaten their armies on land and their navies on the ocean, is not surprising. Neither is it wonderful that British mechanics and manufacturers should view with a certain degree of jealousy the mechanics and manufacturers of another nation, who are already formidable rivals in the fabrications of various articles of merchandize and profit. Rivalries and emulations of this sort, especially amongst those who have been taught from their cradles to look upon their own country as the seat of all that is learned, and ingenious, and wise, to the exclusion of the claims of all other nations, may perhaps naturally engender a contempt for the attainments of those whom they imagine as inferiors. This narrow-mindedness among cobblers, milliners, and journeymen tailors, can hardly excite any other sensation than a transient touch of pity for their ignorance and weakness; but when it discovers itself among the better sort, those whom reflections should have rendered superior to feelings of envy, and from whose bosoms learning should have expelled the pitiful prejudices of party, one is moved to the indulgence of emotion a little less passive.

If the sentence above quoted, had been uttered by some one of the numerous young men who come to the United States as agent for a manufacturer of Liverpool crockery ware, Sheffield lamps and candlesticks, or Birmingham jackknives and buttons, it might have passed unnoticed, as a mere ebullition of that vanity and self conceit in which some of these gentlemen abound so plentifully, that no fears have been entertained of their becoming bank-

rupts in folly and egotism. But when we find it in one of the most popular reviews of Great Britain, published in one of the most learned and polished cities of the kingdom, and by men who are bending under the weight of their literary and scientific laurels, he must be possessed of an uncommon share of meekness and an overwhelming consciousness of his own imbecility, who cannot feel that the reproach is unmerited. We shall never envy the extent of that man's philosophy, nor the equanimity of the elements which compose his mental temperament, who can read such libels and feel no glew of resentment. Yet there are men among us, whose national pride experiences no mortification, and the nerves and fibres of whose patriotism are so calm and insensible as not even to suffer a temporary spasm.

It is no reproach to the people of the United States that they have not yet surpassed in science, literature, and the fine arts, the country from which they originated. They are citizens of an empire which is, as it were, but of yesterday. They are not born the property of a hereditary landlord, forming a portion of his live stock, but are owners of the soil on which they live. In respect to natural rights and privileges they are all equal, all eligible to the highest office of honor their country can bestow. Independence is the great and common objects of pursuit; and until we have men with incomes large enough to patronise the professors of the fine arts by a purchase of their productions independence will continue to be pursued in the most direct and easy paths.

The grand distinction between an American and Englishman does not consist so much in capacity as in motive or disposition. The former would blush to receive a pension for a poem or a dedication, which the latter would endure years of labour to obtain. One will ransack the cabinet of Apollo for gems, and search every bower on Parnassus for flowers to decorate the name of his titled patron: the other, acknowledging no *natural* superior, and seeking no honor but such as his countrymen collectively are willing to bestow, disdains "to bend or bow before created man." In Europe,

"The patron smiles—the flatterers burst with mirth;
He weeps, they droop, the saddest souls on earth;
He calls for fire—they court the mantle's heat;
'Tis warm, he cries—and they dissolve in sweat;
They with a glance the rising passion trace,
And mould their own to suit their patron's face.
At deeds of shame their hands admiring raise,
And mad debauchery's worst excesses praise."

In America, a competency is sought by honorable labor: every one delights to sit at his own table, to sleep in his own house, to till

with his own hands the spot which he has purchased with his own industry, and thinks,

"In any corner he can get,
To call one lizard *his* is something yet."

This passion for independence, or "spirit of monopoly," as some choose to call it, unquestionably retards the progress of the fine arts, and has blasted in the bud many an embryo flower of genius; for who will starve upon anticipations of profit and fame, when he can satisfy his wants by labors that are immediately remunerated?

But are there indeed no men of learning and science, and genius in the United States? Have we no statesmen nor counsellors that do honor to their country? Then let us strew the ashes of oblivion upon the names of Washington, Jefferson, Hamilton, the Adams's, Jay, Otis, and a long catalogue of others of whom we have been accustomed to boast. Franklin we are graciously permitted by the Edinburgh Review to remember, for, "half a century to come." Let us drive away from our recollections all "fond records" of Parsons and Dexter, and send Story and Otis and Webster back to the office of a county lawyer to read books of forms. Why should we listen to the eloquence of Randolph and King, of Wirt and Pinckney, and Harper, when we can import by the "hogshead" the speeches of Phillips and Lord Castlereagh? It is stupidly foolish to pay any deference to the talents of Rush, or Dorsey, or Warren, when a six weeks passage will bring us "in bales" the "sense" of all the quacks who have ever been bug killers to her gracious majesty the queen, or who have invented "innocent and harmless" soaps and lotions for the nobility and royal family. As to painting, what absurdity it is to be pleased with the works of West and Stuart, of Alston and Sargent, when every mountebank that crosses the Atlantic, brings "bales and hogsheads" of daubed canvass and paper, which he is willing to pass off for the works of the most eminent masters. But the "paucity of talent" among our countrymen, is in nothing so conspicuous as in the silly attempts to write poetry. Dwight made an effort to produce a poem, on a piece of scripture history, when he was a very young man. But poor fellow! he could not write poetry, because his baptismal name was Timothy." Take warning by this, ye parents, who expect verses from your children, and beware of these unpoetical names, for which of the sacred nine will ever deign to inspire a man by the name of Timothy?

But to be serious, must we give up our affection and respect for all the productions of

our countrymen? May we not be permitted, without the imputation of absurdity, still to retain our love for those whom remembrance has consecrated as men of genius, letters and taste? Must we never again read the "Conquest of Canaan," nor the "Columbiad"? Must the lyre of Paine never more be suffered to vibrate on our recollection, and must the "Airs of Palestine" be hushed in eternal silence, never more to steal upon the senses, with their smooth and varied melody? Can we not have learning, till we have driven from the heart our native land, and broken all the sacred ties which bind us to its thousand charms? Then let us remain forever ignorant and unrefined. If we cannot have feeling, and genius, and taste, without becoming a nation of fiddlers, merry-andrews and dandies, let us be content to drive the plough, and navigate the ocean, to make turnpike roads and construct steam-boats; but, for heaven's sake, grant us the liberty of hearing our own poets and orators, of respecting our friends and benefactors, of loving our wives and children—and leave us in undisturbed possession of our honor and patriotism, the sympathies of our natures and the independence of our minds.

THE EAGLE.

The beautiful description and character of the American Eagle, given below, is from the pedestrian tour of Estwick Evans, esq.

"Whilst in the Missouri Territory, and not far from the bank of the river, a bald Eagle, perched upon a tall and blasted oak, attracted my attention. It was in the forenoon, and he viewed the sun with an unblinking eye. Whilst I was admiring the strength of his form, and the majesty of his aspect, a wild Turkey flew from a neighboring tree, and alighted on the ground. The eagle immediately pounced upon his prey; but ere he could effect his object the Turkey was shot. I might, too, have killed the Eagle, but admiration and awe prevented me. I felt he was the emblem and the inspiration of my country; and at that moment, I would not, for ten thousand worlds like ours, have cut a feather of his wing. There is something wonderfully impressive in the nature of this bird; and it is not surprising that the Romans were devoted to it. When quite a lad, I mortally wounded an Eagle, supposing it to be a Hawk. It was a half hour before it died, and during this time my heart was filled with mingled emotions of regret and awe. I felt as though I were witnessing the last moments of some meritorious hero, who had fallen upon the hills of his fame. This noble bird fixed his eyes upon me, and without a single blink supported the pangs of death with all the grandeur of fortitude. I could not endure his aspect. I shrunk into my own insignificance, and have ever since been sensible of my inferiority."

SOUTH AMERICA.

FROM VENEZUELA AND NEW GRENADA.

Summary of latest intelligence from Venezuela, received by the brig Mary Ann, from St. Thomas.

In consequence of the detention of the expedition at Margarita, and of the determination of Bolivar not to hazard a general action with a part of his troops, scarcely any thing but skirmishes took place in the Apure and Aranca, until the season was too far advanced to admit of farther operations there.

Meanwhile dispatches received from brigadier general St. Ander, in Casanare, gave interesting views of events in that quarter. The prospect was flattering, especially after news arrived of McGregor's capture of Porto Bello; (they had not yet heard of his supineness and destruction.)

Determined not to be too far anticipated by M^r. McGregor, or for other reasons, general Bolivar, now formed the design of joining St. Ander, with his infantry and the principal part of Paez's cavalry. He has left general Torres to command on the Apure, where a small division of infantry, some cavalry and artillery remain.—Our readers are aware, that from the beginning of June an army cannot operate on the inundated plains, adjacent to that river and branches at their intersection with the Orinoco, and at several other points. They continue impracticable until December or January.

Morillo had divided his army into three divisions; 1 of them, observes gen. Bolivar, remains in San Fernando, and the other was sent against Angostura in Guayana, by the way of Calabozo. This corps had marched as far as the village of Pao, which they burnt on the 14th of June, and continued their march towards San Diego, where general Marino and Sedeno were encamped. On the 17th the congress were extremely alarmed, debated with closed doors, and had issued several orders to the military, when a courier brought the glad tidings on the morning of the 18th, that the royalist division under Aranja had been totally defeated by the independent forces just mentioned (Marino and Sedeno) after an obstinate well fought battle. Upwards of 1000 were killed, and some prisoners, &c. fell into the hands of the victors. This victory saved the province of Guayana.

On the arrival of general Urdaneta at Margarita, gen Arismendi (the governor of the island) would not support him heartily in fitting out the expedition, but even plotted against him, endeavouring to withhold volunteers from his standard—he (A.) being piqued at not having the chief command. At the same time, Jolly and others had spread discontent through the squadron, and occasioned much delay. This difference was compromised, and Jolly was to remain the second rank under admiral Brion. Arismendi and his particular adherents to the number of 18, had been taken and sent to Angostura to be tried by a council of war.

If Urdaneta debarks his army on the coast, and if general Marino, and Bernudez, who is before Cumana, should co-operate with him, they may enter Caraccas, and liberate Venezuela at a single blow. Without prompt and cheerful co-operation they cannot succeed. Indeed, orders had been dispatched to Urdaneta to return to Angostura with his forces!—A thing absolutely impracticable, at this season, in his circumstances. Things appear in an odd situation: the sudden march of Bolivar for New Grenada, and the want of arrangement for a general combined movement, with respect to others, would seem to create perplexity, and put much at hazard:

—for they are positively forbiddden ('tis said) to undertake the march to the capital—as they style Caraccas. Let us hope for the best. If the patriots are as piqued or grateful as they ought to be, under such disjointed measures, they will give special thanks, that fate has assigned them only Spaniards, degenerate Spaniards for enemies! General Bolivar is expected to return to Venezuela by the month of December, after having liberated Santa-Fe. He will bring with him 10,000 infantry, if necessary, and then enter Caraccas. There is certainly the strongest probability that he will have complete success in New Grenada; as some important advantages have been gained already, and Santander has an army of 2500 men in Casanare, and arms and ammunition to supply the Patriots who join his standard. It is said there was much disaffection among the royalist forces in that quarter, many of whom deserted to the independents.

Many persons at Angostura admired this movement of Bolivar as a *chef d'œuvre* of military policy and enterprise, from which the happiest fruits are to be gathered.

We learn with deep regret the death of Dr. Manuel Palacio, a member of the Congress of Venezuela. He died on the 8th of May, after a fever of three days duration, of an aneurism of the aorta. This distinguished, worthy man, was a zealous friend of freedom, and one of the few who understood something of the principles of civil liberty. He was a native of Barinas, but had graduated in the university of Santa-Fe, as Doctor of the Civil Law, &c.—he possessed much physical knowledge, was a thorough chemist and a physician—and in his visits to North America, Paris, and London, had greatly increased his stock of information. He is the author of the *Outline of the Revolution*, published in London and republished in New York. Since his return, he had been chosen a deputy in the Congress from Margarita, and was appointed secretary of state and of the treasury. When we recollect, that half a dozen of firm, intelligent patriots might have saved Venezuela in the most critical times from all the evils of dictatorship, by strenuously maintaining the representative system, we feel inexpressible concern at the loss of a Palacio, whilst the constituent congress were engaged in framing a constitution of civil government.

Possibly his death is a principal cause of the absurd or wicked resolution of a majority of that congress to sanction the provision of a senate for life. It was but a short time previous that a decided majority was against it. Messrs. Zea, Mendez, Briceno and Penalver had vindicated a hereditary senate, as well as the duration of the senatorial office for life; Messrs. Alzura and Marceno opposed it—the former protesting against the admission of a senate for life. Was Roscio absent? or, could he be silent on the occasion?

As the congress of Venezuela scarcely represent 30,000 souls, though its formation is justifiable from necessity, we trust, it will not urge the adoption of a principle so fatal to freedom—and we would fondly hope, that a majority will yet defeat the aristocratic plans of accumulating property and power hereditary in a few persons.

The importance of Venezuela and New Grenada must be so great, if they become and remain united, that one cannot behold this pernicious measure, recommended as it is, without grief and disappointment. A fortunate turn of political events may frustrate the scheme of a perpetual senate, and rescue that fine country from a perpetual curse. People

who have struggled so long and suffered so much, deserve more than a bare exchange of one species of tyranny for another.

P. S. Letters of late date received by this same conveyance inform us, that the port of *St. Juan de Griego*, in Margarita, was blockaded by a Spanish squadron, and that the expedition (former accounts notwithstanding) had not sailed. If the blockading squadron be superior to Brion's, as is probable, the enterprize meditated on the part of the independents may be frustrated. *Baltimore American.*

Extract of a letter from a highly respectable gentleman, dated

ST. THOMAS, July 3, 1819.

"I hasten to apprise you that we have this day received information from Angostura, of an action fought on the 12th ultimo, at Curiana, by division of the Spanish army under the command of General Arana, and a division of the Patriots led by Marino, in which the royalists were totally defeated, with a loss of from 1000 to 1100 men, all their camp equipment, &c. The patriots, I regret to add, suffered severely, having lost 400 men."

Extract of a letter dated Port-au-Prince, 12th June, 1819.

"Sir Gregor M'Gregor est ici de retour de Porto Bello—il s'en est sauvé à la nage et en chemise. On suppose que tout son monde aura été massacré par les Royalistes."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

FRANCE.

Some singular travellers, recently arrived at Bordeaux, excite great curiosity. The principal one is Cornelius Taycaonta, chief of the Onida nation to the west of New York; his suite is composed of seven persons, three of which are women. It appears that a strong desire to visit Europe, and particularly France, has made him abandon the United States, where he received a small pension from the American government. We may, however, presume, that he will find in public curiosity a manner of exercising hospitality, less simple, but more abundant, than that which is practised in the forests of the Ohio, the Mississippi and the Delaware. These savages were to exhibit themselves publicly, the 8th of this month, in the saloon of the Athenæum of Bordeaux.

France at this moment possesses 246 ships of war, among which are 48 line of battle ships, and 29 frigates—eleven of the first and four of the last description are now constructing.

A panorama of Jerusalem, by Prevot, is now attracting a crowd of curious visitors at Paris.

A letter from Paris of 27th May, published

in an English paper, says, "The royal bounty has not been invoked in vain. The king, free to follow the dictates of his heart, since the rights of his throne are respected, has commanded the minister of the interior to present to him the report, upon which he had recently put off his decision. His majesty then authorised the recall of new exiles, upon the list of the 38."

The list of the 38, is now reduced to 25, who will come in successively, provided they ask permission in respectful terms, and be not of the number of the regicides.

The return of gen. Grouchy and the duke of Bassano, is deferred—notwithstanding the solicitations of the duke D'Angouleme in their favor.

GERMANY.

A private letter from Frankfort, of 26th May, says, "Among the important objects which have arrested my attention, I have not lost sight, as you may well suppose, of the movements of the public feeling, which are manifested in Germany. To judge of these movements by the inquietude they cause government, one would believe himself, at the very moment preceding a great revolution, that he saw conspirators in all classes of the community, and seditious persons in all the public places.

The police was never more active, more dark and mysterious. Even to the cut of the hair and fashion of the coat, all suspected.—The immense number of young men who in the German universities, have united themselves in the *Teutonic Association*, are the objects of peculiar watchfulness. It would be impossible, however, upon the whole surface of Germany, to cite a single fact which has borne the character of sedition—or a single word which might be considered as a provocation to revolt. All the desires of the German people have till this day been expressed in respectful petitions and representations.

We cannot however dissemble, that the anxiety of government is, to a certain point, well founded. Discontent is almost general, and it is besides augmented by the entire stagnation of commerce and the progressive decline of German industry. The enormous burdens which result from immense armies, maintained in complete peace, a prohibitory system, to which each state has recourse, to augment its own resources, and which tends to destroy all commerce, since, to enter Germany alone, you must pass the custom-houses of 38 confederated states; such are the principal causes of the afflicting picture which these countries present.

[The *Teutonic Association* has for its object

the political union of Germany, by the concentration of patriotic ideas and sentiments.]

In the *Second Chamber* of Baden, assembly a formal motion has been made, relative to the introduction of the entire liberty of the press in that Dutchy.

A general commission is about to be established at Frankfort, charged with certain alterations in the German universities. Each university will send a deputy who will set in this commission.

Some changes, says a letter from Frankfort, on the form of government, are expected in the different states of Germany. Austria appears immovable in the midst of the general agitation. They wish to maintain the aristocratic institutions in the two kingdoms of Saxony and Hanover. But it is not believed they can succeed.

Germany appears much agitated—in every part the principles of just and free government are canvassed and supported. They are now occupied in the second Bavarian assembly on the important discussion upon the introduction of the trial by jury—the publicity of the courts, as well of civil as criminal jurisdiction—nothing is yet decided. (In some parts of Europe, the courts are not open to the public—the prisoner, the advocates and the judges, are only allowed to enter the room.)

In Hesse-Darmstadt, the deputies of the commons assembled to deliberate on grievances, in spite of the prohibition of such assemblies. The government has taken new measures to hinder such meetings.

The inhabitants of Bavaria, on the Rhine, have been alarmed by the report of the demand of a great German power to take possession of Landau, and garrison it for the future. These rumours, it is thought, will be contradicted.

The second Bavarian chamber have agreed, almost unanimously, to introduce jury trials and to make courts public—they have petitioned the king to propose such a law.

Extract of letter from the correspondent of the editors of the Philadelphia Freeman's Journal, dated

"HAMBURG, MAY 18.

"I think the United States will not have much commerce with Hamburg this year.—Last year only 44 American vessels entered this port, total tons 10756. There is nothing that can be sent from the United States to the north of Europe that will have a profit at present.

"By my letters from St. Petersburg, I understand the hon G. W. Campbell, (our minister to the court of Russia,) has lost three children by sickness in 8 days, on or about the 1st of April; this is a mournful dispensation of Providence. Mr. Campbell is a great favorite in Russia. Such men as Mr. Adams, Campbell, and Mr. Pinckney, reflect great honor on our country.

"Every thing in the political world, (as it regards the north of Europe) looks very calm and quiet. The flag of the United States was

never more respected, than at present, thank heaven.

"Coffee and sugar very slack—coffee at 9s per banco, looking down."

SPAIN.

LATE FROM GIBRALTAR. Boston, July 9.—Captain Covill, of the brig Adamant, who arrived yesterday, left Gibraltar on the 3d of June and informs that Spain had ratified the Treaty with the United States, ceding the Floridas, and providing for certain American Claims—and presumes that the Hornet had sailed from Cadiz for New York with the ratification.

A letter from Spain, dated May 15, says "The expedition, consisting of 50,000 troops is expected to sail from Cadiz in the course of a month. Its object is to make a final attempt for the reduction of the rebellion by striking a blow upon every one of the revolted Provinces at once, and thus endeavour to terminate the contest.

"The command is to be given to the Marquis d'Yrujo. Anxiety is seen in the countenance of every Spaniard, who wishes for the end of the civil war, while he secretly breathes a prayer for the success of the Patriots."

The Spanish Expedition.—Captain Coffin, of the brig Laura Ann, who arrived yesterday in 40 days from Cadiz, informs, that the sailing of the grand expedition to South America was again deferred until about the 1st of September. On the 13th of May, two ships of the line and three frigates, sailed for Lima. Captain Coffin also states, that the Spanish Treaty was not ratified, so late as the 4th of June, the day on which he sailed. The Hornet still remained at Cadiz, waiting for despatches and sailing orders.

PORTUGAL.

PORTUGUESE EDICT.

Being presented to his majesty the clamours of the owners and tenants of tillage lands, against the extraordinary and unlimited importation of foreign grain, preventing the sale of the national, tending to the ruin of their agriculture, the justice of these complaints being verified by a representation from the Royal Junta of Commerce, Agriculture, Manufactures and Navigation, and Memorial from the Junta of Marsh Land, and from various Districts—his majesty taking all this into consideration, and that without equalizing the price of foreign grain, so that the national may enter into concurrence, the agriculture of these kingdoms will soon be entirely lost, as some lands have been already left this year unsowed, and some tenants given up their lease:—Hereby orders provisionally while the state of the tillage require it, and no counter order be issued, that the foreign Wheat and Indian Corn entering in the Corn market after the publication of this order by Edict, shall pay duty for wheat eighty reis, and for Indian corn one hundred reis per Algueire, instead of twenty reis paid till now: Furthermore, that the excess of these duties be applied in favor of agriculture for roads and bridges to facilitate the transportation of grain, entering into the same chest with the excess of duty on flour appropriated to the same purpose. By order of his majesty, I communicate this to your excellency for execution. Pa-

face of Government in Lisbon, the 11th of May, 1819.

João Antonio Salter de Mondouca.

To Count Peniche.

In conformity to the Royal Orders, this is published by the present Edict, Lisbon, 13th May, 1819.

ANTONIO MOREIRA DIAS,
Administrator of the Corn market.

ITALY.

The Prince of Peace, (Dodoy) who lately died at Rome, was unquestionably the richest subject in Europe. His property has been estimated at one hundred millions of dollars. But these are round numbers. Those however who recollect the extent of his immense flocks of Merino sheep; his numerous establishments; and the almost innumerable offices of profit and honor he sustained for many years, will readily allow his wealth must have been enormous. Yet this man's enjoyments were inferior to most of those who walk the middle way of life. He was continually harrassed with care; had innumerable enemies; and was the hourly theme of scandal and reproach. He rose from a very humble origin to the highest offices in Spain; and was banished from it with his old King and belated Queen:—And be this recorded to his praise, that whether in prosperity or adversity, his fidelity to them was never abated; nor was their confidence in him in the least diminished.

SWEDEN.

The works on the fortifications which were to commence in Sweden about the first of May, are going on rapidly. The king, who desires to preserve peace with his neighbors, appears to take the most appropriate measures to assure its duration.

The reports which have been circulated in Europe, that the Emperor of Russia had intimated to Charles XIVth, of Sweden, (better known to newsmongers as marshal Bernadotte, and Prince of Ponte Corvo) that it would add to the repose of Europe, were he to descend from the throne of Sweden and Norway, and accept a kingdom in the Russian empire: have been pronounced, most indignantly, in the Swedish Court Gazette, to be unworthy of notice. Notwithstanding this pronouncement, the report is continued, and the Emperor Alexander is abused by some, and praised by others, for giving the intimation. It is said, on one side, that the measure would be a gross violation of existing treaties, and an instance of *pusilla fides* which would sully all the glory which irradiates the throne of the Russias. On the other hand, it is asserted, that Bernadotte is now the only *illegitimate* sovereign in Europe; that he is a French revolutionist, and one of Bonaparte's favorites, and therefore ought to follow the fate of his master and compatriots; that the legitimate king of Sweden, Gustavus Adolphus, is still alive, and if, as has been admitted, he is not of himself capable, from insanity, of conducting the affairs of the kingdom, the incapacity does not extend to his son Gustavus, who, according to the rules of royalty, has now arrived at the age of discretion, having nearly completed the 20th year of his age; and whose talents and qualifications to govern are universally admitted:—That in addition to these he is the nephew of the Empress of Russia and one of her foster children; and that as the restoration of the old dynasty to the throne of Sweden, is the only favor she has ever asked of her husband, it is hardly to be supposed that such a man as the Emperor Alexander, will deny her the boon; especially as some of the ablest civilians of Europe,

have declared that this measure would consummate the great work of the sovereigns, and give cement to the foundations of the peace of Europe.

All accounts agree that France is decidedly in favor of Bernadotte's holding the Swedish sceptre; and equally so, that the British Cabinet, as now organized, have always stood his steadfast friends.

It has been also known, that some serious differences have existed between Denmark and Sweden, on the score of the payments due by the latter as indemnification for Norway; but several of the Great Powers of Europe are guarantees of the performance of the treaty; and that conferences of ministers have been held on the subject in London. The amount is pretty large, and the ex-sargant King is not overstocked with *Pergent*.

SWITZERLAND.

A little volcano has recently made its appearance on a mountain near Morbio, at a village on the Swiss canton at Tessin. The explosion was preceded by an earthquake. The flames ascended to a considerable height above the summit of the mountain, and masses of stones were hurled to a great distance.—On the following day a large opening was observed in the mountain, from which the flames still issued with a strong smell of sulphur. Great damage was sustained by some houses in the neighborhood, but no lives were lost. The date of this event corresponds with that of the late disasters in Sicily.

CANADA.

The Lumber Trade.—The quantity of lumber in the port of Quebec, is now greater we understand, than at the same period of any former year, excepting 1811. The tonnage of the vessels are loading with the greatest expedition to make two trips, and to facilitate them in loading, the steam-boat Telegraph has been employed in towing the rafts to their respective stations, which she effects with the greatest ease when the tide is in her favor.

Montreal Agricultural Report for June.

From the commencement to the end of this month, the Farmers have been employed in sowing their late grain, (chiefly oats and buckwheat,) and in planting the remains of their potatoes. Every thing bore a good appearance from the seasonable and refreshing rains, accompanied with the genial warmth, until the 28th ult. when this district was visited by a severe storm of hail, accompanied with a tremendous gale of wind. The chief sufferers have been the pease, early potatoes, maize, corn, and pumpkins. The horse beans have also been much injured, as they were at the time high and in full bloom. It is thought the pease will not be more than half a crop wherever they have been affected with the storm. The potatoes are expected to recover, but being broken down it will make them later. The wheat, which has in general escaped, has a very fine appearance, a part of it is in the ear, and what was sown later has a healthy appearance. The grass crops promise fair, and will be early fit for mowing, some of the turnips are sown, but their fate from the fly is not yet decided.

WEST INDIES.

An account from Curacao states that the Danes have consented to receive into their ports the vessels of war belonging to the Independents, and have permitted them to sell their cargoes there.

BRAZILS.

Extracts of letters to the Editor of the Watchman, by the brig Fox, arrived at Philadelphia.

"Rio Janeiro, May 6th, 1819.—At this place all is pomp and shew.—Another princess has come into the world; the christening of which took place on the 3d inst. and has cost the nation some thousands of dollars, which, I think, would have been better applied to the paying of the sailors and soldiers, many of whom have not received one dollar for eight years! This is perhaps, one of the most tyrannical, despotic, and corrupt governments under heaven; how long it will last, is difficult to tell; but I would not insure it many years. We never have any news here, unless what we get from English or American papers, which I have not seen of late date."

"Rio de Janeiro, May 23.—I am sorry I cannot forward you the latest paper I have seen from Buenos Ayres, which announces Belgrano being at the head of affairs there, and that he has already made an armistice with Artigas, preparatory to a peace and union, which I have no doubt has ere this taken place, from which we may calculate upon very important changes; and I have some hopes that they will now go on well—for this, every friend to those people may think the King of Spain, for his threatened expedition to the River la Plata; these people have not as yet had an enemy to contend with; which is the reason they have been at war among themselves; and I sincerely hope the expedition talked of so much will actually proceed to the river—nothing can do these people greater service."

FLORIDA.

Addressed to Mariners passing through the Gulf of Florida.

Having observed in the course of long experience, that several masters of vessels, who had the misfortune to be cast away on the Martyrs and the coast of Florida, ignorant of the existence of any settlement at Cape Florida, have attempted to proceed to the Northward in their boats, deprived of every assistance; I feel it incumbent upon me to inform such as may hereafter experience a like misfortune, that if they pass to the north side of Key Biscane, they will find the entrance of Boca Ratones through which they can safely go with their boats, and they will see the houses in front on the main land.

In case of shipwreck to the southward of Baco Ratones, at the distance of two miles therefrom, they will perceive Mangroves thinly scattered, from thence the houses may be seen—and in that situation, on making a signal with fire or otherwise, they will obtain assistance.

If it should happen to the Southward of New River, they may proceed southwardly along the beach, where they will meet, every four miles, with posts, fixed in the ground, on which is an inscription, in English, French and Spanish, informing where wells of fresh water have been purposely dug.

An inhabitant of Cape Florida.

HOME AFFAIRS.

A letter received in this city, from captain Downes, of the Macedonian, dated at Valparaiso, 10th March 1819, states that his crew is

in fine health, and that he should shortly proceed to Lima: which we understand is the substance of the information, received by a late arrival at Nantucket.

RALFIGH, July 9 The council of state convened in this city on Saturday last, for the purpose of advising the Governor in the appointment of a Judge to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Iredell. All the Members of the Council were present, and they concurred in the appointment of Jos. Wilson, esq. of Mecklenburg county: but Mr. Wilson arrived in the city that day, and declined accepting the appointment. A majority of the council being still present, they were again convened by the governor, when they appointed John R. Donnell, esq. of Newbern.

The Raleigh Register informs us, that the Commissioners of Navigation for the State of North Carolina have engaged an Engineer of first rate skill and ability from England to superintend our several contemplated Works, of opening the Rivers, making Canals, &c. and that he is arrived at New York, and daily expected there his name is Fulton.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

The following case was determined at the Circuit Court of the United States, for the District of Columbia.

Christopher Armat,

vs

The Union Bank of Georgetown.

This was a suit brought for the recovery of \$100 from the Union bank. It appeared from the case stated, that a note for \$100, belonging to the plaintiff, was cut in two, and was sent by two mails, for the purpose of being remitted with safety, from Gloucester, in Virginia, to Baltimore. One half of the note was received, and the other half never came to hand. On proof of the facts, the plaintiff applied to the bank for the payment of \$100, and offered to indemnify the bank against any claim that might be founded on the other half of the note, when produced. The bank refused to pay the plaintiff more than fifty dollars; conceiving that they would be liable to pay by custom the other \$50, when the other part of the note was produced. 2 Campb. 211 was cited.

Per Cur: In this case, the note must be considered, by being severed, as destroyed. The half of a bank note is not a negotiable instrument, and could give no title to a bona fide holder, who received it after it was severed, to recover upon it. As it is admitted that the plaintiff was the real owner of the note, when its negotiability ceased, by being cut in two, he is entitled to recover the whole amount from the bank.

Judgment for Plaintiff.

From the Poughkeepsie Observer, of July 14.

Naval Depot.—The commissioners appointed by government to survey different places for a Naval depot, visited this place on Monday last, with a view to that purpose. The commission consisted of gen. Bernard and col. Totten, of the Engineer corps; captains Warrington and Elliot, of the Navy; and Major Kearney, capt. De Russay, and lieutenants Thompson, Humphreys, & Loring, engineers. Major Kearney & assistants are now engaged in making a survey of the Hudson River, near the mouth of Fallkill creek. We feel confident that no situation north of the Highlands, combines more advantages for a naval depot, than the beautiful and romantic situation where this creek falls into the Hudson.

NEW-YORK, July 10. Rose Butler, the colored woman, convicted of arson, was executed yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock, at Potter's field, in the presence of a numerous concourse of people. She was conveyed to the fatal spot in a carriage, attended by two female members of the Methodist Society, a clergyman and a physician; followed by other carriages filled with commiserating friends. Her ascent to the gallows was firm but tremulous. Mr. Bell, the sheriff, performed his duty in person, in official full dress. His manner was firm and dignified. Just before she reached the gallows, the unfortunate Rose asked for a drink of water, which was handed to her. She has made no disclosure of accomplices, which by her respite, was calculated on. We hope she has repented, and went into eternity in a pardon-asking mood. Her last words were, "I am satisfied as to the justness of my fate—it is all right."

The Legislature of New Hampshire, passed a law at the last session providing that hereafter every person shall be exempted from taxation for the support of the gospel, who lodges with the town clerk a certificate that he differs in religious persuasion from the minister for whose support he is taxed. The law, however, is not intended to affect contracts already existing between ministers and their people.

A committee was appointed in the Senate, to report a vote of thanks of General Jackson for the speedy manner in which he brought the Seminole war to a close. Resolutions approving conduct of general were reported, and were under debate in the Senate, when a message was received from the Governor, adjourning the two houses.

CHARLESTON, July 7. The festivities in honor of our great national Anniversary were succeeded on Monday night by a most distressing event, which, together, with an immense

destruction of property, has rendered houseless a number of industrious citizens. About one o'clock a fire was discovered in the front shop of Mr. Brodie, baker, in Meeting street, next door to the corner of Market-street, which soon communicated to the large building on the corner, occupied by Mr. Douglass, grocer, and Mr. Gallaway, innkeeper, and in its progress consumed all the buildings in Market-street to the tenement occupied by Mr. Frean, on King street, and all the buildings on Meeting street up to that occupied by Mr. Pierce—in all about twenty buildings, which were occupied by the following and several other persons. On Meeting-street by Mr. Brodie, baker; Mr. Nevill, cabinet maker; Mr. McIntosh, do.; Mr. Gros; Mr. Mordecai, gunsmith; Mr. Godfroy, painter; the last by Mrs. Swinton. The corner by Messrs. Galloway and Douglass. On Market street by Mr. Douglass, as a dwelling house; Mr. Ling, coachmaker; Mr. Guie, tinman; and the last by Mrs. Sifley.—There is little doubt that the fire was communicated by some daring incendiary, two attempts having been previously made to fire the same premises.

BROWNSVILLE, July 12.—*United States Road.*—The whole of the United States' Road unfinished between Uniontown and Washington has been contracted for by Mr. James Kincaid, James Beck, Gabriel Evans, John Kennedy and John Miller; the east side of the Monongahela to be made for 6,900 dollars per mile; and the west side for 7,400 dollars. This will leave, out of the appropriation of 285,000, a balance sufficient to build a bridge over the Monongahela, after the salary of the superintendent and all other expences are paid.

CINCINNATI, (Ohio) June 22.—*The Season.*—We have noticed, with much gratification, numerous accounts from places to the east of the mountains, as well as from several to the west of them, of very flattering prospects of abundant crops. In this part of our state, and in the adjoining parts of Indiana and Kentucky, the appearance of good crops and liberal supplies of fruits, we understand, are quite favorable. The article of hay, however, it is said, owing to the dry weather, will be as plentiful as in some former seasons.

BUFFALO, June 29.—We learn that gen. Brown will proceed from Mackina, to inspect the posts of Green Bay and Chicago.

BUFFALO, July 6.—The Hon. *Morris S. Miller* arrived at this village on Friday last. Judge Miller is a Commissioner on the part of government, to treat with the Indians, for the cession of certain lands in this vicinity and at Saganaw Bay, in the Michigan Territory. A counsel was yesterday held with the Indians, at the Indian village, about 8 miles from this place, on the subject of the lands in this county, but we have not yet learnt the result.—We are sorry to state, however, that, from appearances, there is little or no probability of success.

We regret to learn, that the remnant of the Six Nations of Indians, residing within this state, during the last week, in full council, solemnly resolved not to encourage the introduction of the Christian religion among them. We understand that the debates on the subject were long and violent.

EDITOR'S CABINET.

City of Washington, July 17th.

THE PRESIDENT,

In his journey thro' Kentucky, has been received with every token of respect, highly honorable to the national feeling and hospitality of the West: his return home, it is said, will be by the way of Albermarle Co. Virginia, (and not through Pittsburg, as reported,) where he will halt at his farm for a few days, and then proceed to Washington.

The ratification of the Spanish treaty not having been received in the U. States, (to borrow a mercantile phrase, "by return of mail," symptoms of distrust have been manifested in many of our news-papers, and some of our politicians have serious doubts whether it ever will receive the sanction of the Spanish monarch; but if we reflect a moment on the *consequences* that might, in such a case, ensue; that, as her colonial neighbours in America, a rupture would, at this crisis, put at hazard the daily bread of her nobility and famished soldiery; that the very *sinews* of war would be cut off from her reach, by the probable separation of Mexico and Cuba from her colonial dominions; the Spanish cabinet will not, eventually, be so rash as to refuse its ratification: of two evils they will choose the least, and yield up the Floridas, rather than risk the amputation of more valuable members of her distant possessions: it will in fact be parting with an incubus, that has long oppressed her, both as a political and pecuniary burden, and that now threatens more than any other, to disturb the repose of her remaining power in this hemisphere: their poverty, but not their will, may consent; otherwise no nation on earth could wring from the hands of the haughty Spaniard one league of her colonial dominions. We shall, probably, not long be in suspense on this head.

Among the projects furnished in the last number of the American Farmer, an agricultural work, published at Baltimore, are two of great novelty, and we doubt not of utility: one is a long essay to shew the uncommon advantage that would result in procuring a breed of the Bactrian Camels from central Asia, for various uses; but particularly for transporting the mail, on distant and mountainous routs, which the writer avers could be performed at the extraordinary rate of 100 miles in 24 hours, and go across the Pacific Ocean and back, in sixty days from Washington. The other is a recommendation to planters, to commence the cultivation of poppies, for the manufacture of opium, which is said to be perfectly practicable, and might form a most lucrative source of wealth, to those who would engage in it. We merely mention these hints from memory, (not having the sheet before us) for the purpose of contributing our best wishes towards a more general attention to matters of national concern; and that men of money and leisure, may be induced to make the experiment.

OFFICIAL NOTICES, &c.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Bank of the U. States, is to take place in November next, for the purpose of making an expose of their affairs. The motive is honorable, and satisfactory to fair dealing.

Our minister at the court of Russia, Mr. G. W. Campbell, in the course of eight days, lost three children, by sickness, in St. Petersburg.

Despatches have been received at the navy department, from the U. S. Frigate Macedonian, Capt. Downs, at Valpariso: officers and crew in fine health and spirits, and on the eve of sailing for Lima.

The Emperor of Austria, while on a visit at Naples, has expressed a wish to visit the American squadron. Com. Stewart intends to receive his distinguished visitor, with the characteristic hospitality of his country.

COMMUNICATED—JOSEPH LANCASTER.

"The long summer pilgrimage of this good patriarchal Briton, (says a northern correspondent) lies through the states of New-York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and the District of Maine, where he is lecturing to numerous and enlightened auditories, furnished with the largest religious and other public buildings for their reception."

"The magic of so distinguished a name and cause, is here found to be irresistible.—In whatsoever point of view, or section of the earth he is contemplated, whether at home or abroad, in royal halls, or hovels of the poor, he is seen revolving a generous auspicious luminary of instruction, with nothing cold, opaque, or selfish about it, low self-interest and beloved self are lost in the march of his all pervading but illrequited philanthropy."

"The evil eye of hungry criticism perhaps revels in his few defective exteriors; but were it capable for a moment of looking into the arcanæ of his illustrious deeds and achievements, it might look and be blasted with excess of brightness. For, as the founder of a great system, not to be confined to the age or nation which produced it, because possessing machinery planted in Heaven and destined to move the earth, he has done infinitely more than Archimedes did, or oratory can tell of, or scribes chronicle; but posterity, in ranking him with its Howard's and Washington's, shall read, and at one day give utterance to his eloquent, though at present unspeakable story."

"Even the well known wit of his repartees has always been directed and tended to moral good, fearless of any consequences. A memorable instance of it occurred at Dublin Castle, on his first visit to his Grace, the Duke of Bedford, while viceroy of Ireland. Seated at table, over wine after dinner, by the side of a young beauteous bare bosomed Patrician, who thus merrily toasted him, "Well, Friend Lancaster, here's to thy broad brim'd hat!"—(taking his glass, rejoined he) I am not accustomed to such ceremonies, but as thou dost challenge met o return the compliment, "Lady Mary, here's to thy absent handkerchief;" on which she retired covered with blushes and the laugh against her."